HEALTH SERVICES REVIEW '79
(CANADA)

Terms of Reference

** TERMS OF REFERENCE **

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1. The federal Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act has been in existence for 21 years and the Medical Care Act has been in existence for 11 years.

2. The social and economic climate within which publicly financed health insurance programs operate has changed significantly over that period.

3. Health care priorities and technology have been under constant development.

4. Health insurance programs themselves have evolved over the period in question and federal and provincial financial arrangements related to these programs have been changed.

5. Various groups and individuals have expressed concern with some aspects of the health care delivery system.

6. Provincial ministers have pledged their "full support in any activities aimed at clarification and re-evaluation of health care programs".

The Charter of Health for Canadians proposed by the Royal Commission on Health Services in 1964 states:

> "The achievement of the highest possible health standards for all our people must become a primary objective of national policy and a cohesive factor contributing to national unity, involving individual and community responsibilities and actions. This objective can best be achieved through a

comprehensive, universal Health Services Program for the Canadian people.

IMPLEMENTED in accordance with Canada's evolving constitutional arrangements;

BASED upon freedom of choice, and upon free and self-governing profession;

FINANCED through prepayment arrangements;

ACCOMPLISHED through the full co-operation of the general public, the health professions, voluntary agencies, all political parties and governments, federal, provincial, and municipal;

DIRECTED towards the most effective use of the nation's health resources to attain the highest possible levels of physical and mental well-being."

Health Services Review '79, to be conducted by Mr. Justice Emmett Hall, will review the current status of public health insurance programs in Canada. This Review will

1. consider the extent to which the goals of the Charter of Health for Canadians have been met;

2. examine the extent to which the principles of portability, reasonable access, universal coverage, comprehensive coverage, public administration, reasonable compensation and uniform terms and conditions are being achieved;

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3. consider whether there should be other basic principles underlying health insurance delivery; services

4. consider the nature and extent of necessary revisions to the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act and the Medical Care Act and related legislation;

5. consider other means by which public authorities may best comply with the principles referred to above.

In conducting the Review, Mr. Justice Hall will consult federal and provincial Ministers of Health and Social Services and their officials, health workers, users of health services and health institutions and associations representing any of them. He will also examine and review availabe data and consult more broadly as necessary.

The Review will deliver and make public its report before May 31, 1980.

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In conducting the Review, Mr. Justice Hall will consult federal and provincial Ministers of Health and Social Services and their officials, health workers, users of health services and health institutions and associations representing any of them. He will also examine and review availabe data and consult more broadly as necessary.

The Review will deliver and make public its report before May 31, 1980.

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Proposed Review of Health Insurance Programs

1) The federal Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act has been in existence for 21 years and the Medical Care Act has been in existence for 11 years.
2) The social and economic climate within which publicly financed health insurance programs operate has changed significantly over that period.
3) Health care priorities and technology have been under constant development.
4) Health insurance programs themselves have evolved over the period in question and federal and provincial financial arrangements related to these programs have been changed.
5) Various groups and individuals have expressed concern with some aspects of the health care delivery system.
6) Provincial ministers have pledged their "full support in any activities aimed at clarification and re-evaluation of health care programs".

A review will therefore be established to consider the current status of public health insurance programs in Canada. The review is requested to consider the extent to which the goals set forth in the "Charter of Health for Canadians" proposed by the Royal Commission on Health Services in 1964 is being achieved. The charter states: "The achievement of the highest possible health standards for all our people must become a primary objective of national policy and a cohesive factor

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contributing to national unity, involving individual and community responsibilities and actions. This objective can best be achieved through a comprehensive, universal Health Services Programme for the Canadian people.

IMPLEMENTED in accordance with Canada's evolving constitutional arrangements;

BASED upon freedom of choice, and upon free and self-governing professions;

FINANCED through prepayment arrangements;

ACCOMPLISHED through the full cooperation of the general public, the health professions, voluntary agencies, all political parties and governments, federal, provincial, and municipal;

DIRECTED towards the most effective use of the nation's health resources to attain the highest possible levels of physical and mental well-being."

The review is also requested to:

1) examine the extent to which the principles of portability, reasonable access, universal coverage, comprehensive coverage, public administration, reasonable compensation and uniform terms and conditions are being achieved.
2) consider whether there should be other basic principles underlying health insurance delivery.
3) consider the nature and extent of necessary revisions to the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act and the Medical Care Act and related legislation.

....3.

4) consider other means by which public authorities may best comply with the principles referred to above.

In the course of its activities, the review should

1) Examine and review available data;
2) consult with federal and provincial Ministers of Health and Social Services and their officials;
3) consult with health professionals, consumers and health institutions;
4) consult with associations representing consumers, health professionals and institutions;
5) consult more broadly as necessary.

The Review is directed to deliver and make public its report within six months.

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